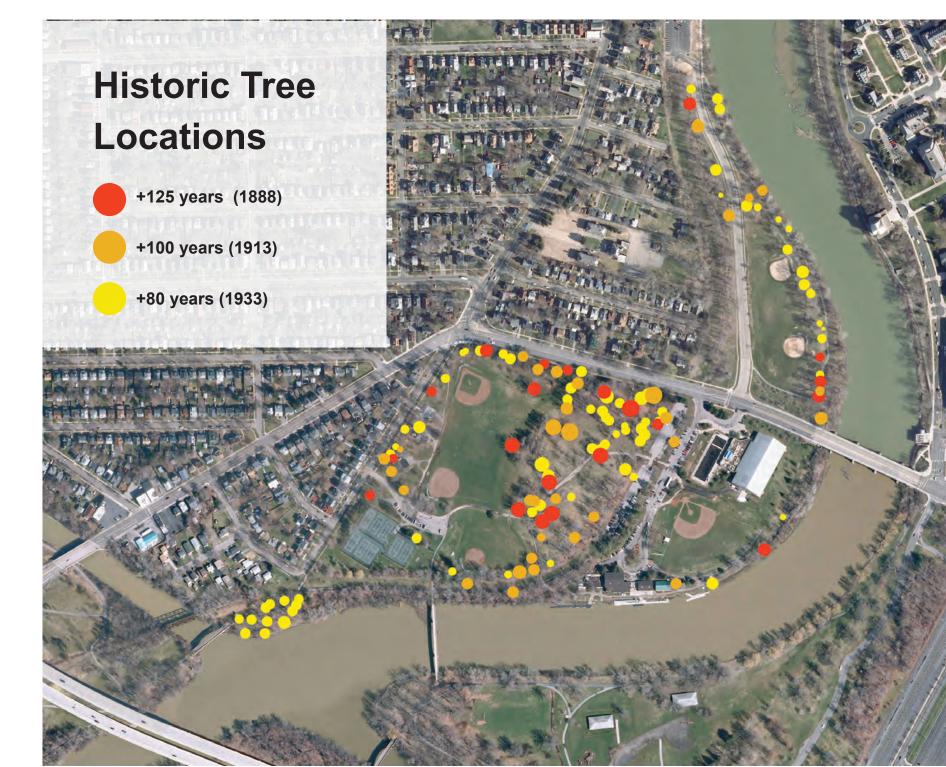


## Olmsted's primary goal was to protect the river as a scenic asset.

"The land possessed by the Commission on the west side of the river has been purchased primarily in order to prevent the possibility of buildings being erected upon it, and the plan of the plantations has been made with the object of shutting out of view buildings and constructions that have been, or that may be in the future, established on ground beyond the property. This not alone because such buildings might be ugly, but because it is the intention to give the with convenience in its use, from artificial objects. This motive applies more particularly to that part of the park above [south of] the mouth of Red Creek. All the ground held by the Commission north of this district has been regarded as a vestibule, approach and ante-room to it. In this narrower northern district therefore, constructions of convenience for the keeping and use of the park, including club houses, have, as far as practicable, been located, and it has been thought advisable to make a place for the most of them on the north ge, and where they could be hardly discerned by visitors on the broader and more open part of the park; that is to say, from the park proper, in distinction from its approaches and appendages."

F.L. Olmsted to Dr. E.M. Moore (Parks Commissioner)

## Historic vegetation is an important part of the cultural landscape.



## that can boast a comprehensive park system designed by Frederick Law Olmsted.

The other three cities are Buffalo, Boston, and Louisville. In addition to this significant distinction, Rochester (along with Louisville) had the longest involvement with the Olmsted firm (including his sons successor firms), resulting in more than 300 plans for the City alone.

## Olmsted preferred to work on the "river

Olmsted stressed this preference in correspondence with the Parks Commission in 1888. He went so far as to suggest names of those who may be able to assist in the design of Highland Park if he could work within the "river lands" (later to become Genesee Valley Park and Seneca Park) to create his distinctive Pastoral and Picturesque landscapes. His name suggestions to the Parks Commission included (among others) Calvert Vaux, Olmsted's partner in designing Central Park.